

(b) The salient points highlighted by the Study are inadequate compliance with requirements like indication of the names of the ingredients used in the product or their composition by their weight or volume, non-supply of information like containing or otherwise of permitted natural/synthetic colours and added flavours, date of expiry/best before use, non-display of name of the Indian importer, non-display of maximum retail price, non-indication of the month and year of manufacture, non-provision of lot number and batch number and in some cases use of non-permitted colours, flavours and vegetable fats.

(c) The study was commissioned by the Government of India to assess level of compliance with domestic laws and does not therefore indicate helplessness of Indian consumer. The Consumer Protection Act contains adequate provisions empowering consumer redressal agencies to provide relief and redressals.

(d) The provisions of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 empower the State Government, if it deems fit, to establish more than one District Forum in a District.

(e) Action for prosecution and providing relief to consumers like replacement of defective goods, imposing fines etc., are taken to ensure that violations of various provisions of the Laws are prevented. Further, Ministry of Commerce have issued directives for ensuring compliance with domestic laws like Weights and Measures, Orders under the Essential Commodities Act etc. by all importer of food items.

Trade and export-oriented Agriculture

[†]4570. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are trying to make Indian agriculture trade and export-oriented, under the pressure of World Trade Organisation; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes prepared for this purpose?

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) There is no pressure from the WTO for making Indian agriculture trade and export-oriented. The long-term objective of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture is to establish a fair and market oriented agricultural trade system by way of correcting and preventing restrictions and distortions in the world agricultural markets. It is perceived that the WTO Agreement on Agriculture would create more opportunities for the agricultural exports from the developing countries like India. The Government is giving due importance to the promotion of agricultural exports. Under the new Exim Policy Agri export zones are proposed to be set up for the end to end development for export of specific products from a geographically contiguous area. These zones are to be identified by the respective State Governments who would also evolve a comprehensive package of services such as provision of pre/post harvest treatment and operations, plant protection, processing, storage and related research and development. The agro sector would also be able to avail of the Exim Policy Schemes like Duty exemption Scheme and Export Capital Goods Scheme. The recent Exim Policy announced by the Government, on the 31st March, 2001, also envisages the entitlement of Agri-exporters for recognition as Export House/Trading House/Star Trading House/Super Star Trading House on achieving 1/3rd of the threshold limit prescribed for exports of goods.

Development of Horticulture in Arunachal Pradesh

4571. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan for development of horticulture in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?